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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A crystalline parecoxib sodium form I, characterized by an x-ray powder diffraction pattern having peaks expressed as 2θ at about 5.7, 8.3, 10.4, 17.4, 21.0 and 23.2 degrees.
2. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The crystalline parecoxib sodium form I as defined in claim 1, further characterized by an x-ray powder diffraction pattern as in figure 1.
3. (original) A crystalline parecoxib sodium form II, characterized by an x-ray powder diffraction pattern having peaks expressed as 2θ at about 5.4, 6.8, 7.9, 10.6, 16.2, 17.1, 19.5, 20.4 and 22.4 degrees.
4. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The crystalline parecoxib sodium form II as defined in claim 3, further characterized by an x-ray powder diffraction pattern as in figure 2.
5. (original) A crystalline parecoxib sodium form III, characterized by an x-ray powder diffraction pattern having peaks expressed as 2θ at about 5.3, 5.9, 6.6, 7.8, 8.3, 10.7, 11.9, 12.2, 16.1, 19.5, 20.0, 21.6, 23.4 and 30.1 degrees.
6. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The crystalline parecoxib sodium form III as defined in claim 5, further characterized by an x-ray powder diffraction pattern as in figure 3.
7. (original) A crystalline parecoxib sodium form IV, characterized by an x-ray powder diffraction pattern having peaks expressed as 2θ at about 5.2, 7.9, 12.1, 17.3, 17.9, 22.5, 23.4 and 27.1 degrees.
8. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The crystalline parecoxib sodium form IV as defined in claim 7, further characterized by an x-ray powder diffraction pattern as in figure 4.
9. (original) A crystalline parecoxib sodium form V, characterized by an x-ray powder diffraction pattern having peaks expressed as 2θ at about 6.5, 7.7, 9.3, 10.6, 13.2, 15.5, 15.9, 17.4, 17.8, 20.2, 21.7, 22.1, 22.8, 23.4 and 24.3 degrees.

10. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The crystalline parecoxib sodium form V as defined in claim 9, further characterized by an x-ray powder diffraction pattern as in figure 5.
11. (original) A crystalline parecoxib sodium form VI, characterized by an x-ray powder diffraction pattern having peaks expressed as 2θ at about 5.4, 7.9, 9.5, 11.9, 18.1, 18.6, 20.9, 30.2 and 32.1 degrees.
12. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The crystalline parecoxib sodium form VI as defined in claim 11, further characterized by an x-ray powder diffraction pattern as in figure 6.
13. (currently amended) A process for ~~preparation of~~ preparing parecoxib sodium form I as defined in claim 1, which comprises the steps of:
    a) mixing together i) either 1) parecoxib sodium or 2) parecoxib and ~~an~~ a sodium metal carrier, and
       ii) an alcohol solvent; and
    b) isolating parecoxib sodium form I from the mixture;

wherein the alcohol solvent is selected from the group consisting of methanol, ethanol, isopropyl alcohol, tert-butyl alcohol and n-butyl alcohol.

14. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process according to claim 13, wherein the sodium metal carrier is sodium hydroxide.
15. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process according to claim 13, wherein the alcohol solvent is ethanol.
16. (currently amended) A process for preparation of parecoxib sodium form II as defined in claim 3, which comprises the steps of:
    a) mixing together i) either 1) parecoxib sodium or 2) parecoxib and ~~an~~ a sodium metal carrier, and
       ii) acetonitrile; and
    b) isolating parecoxib sodium form II from the mixture.

17. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process according to claim 16, wherein sodium metal carrier is sodium hydroxide.

18. (currently amended) A process for preparation of parecoxib sodium form III as defined in claim 5, which comprises the steps of:

a) mixing together i) either 1) parecoxib sodium or 2) parecoxib and ~~an~~ a sodium metal carrier, and

ii) tetrahydrofuran; and

b) isolating parecoxib sodium form III from the mixture.

19. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process according to claim 18, wherein the sodium metal carrier is sodium hydroxide.

20. (currently amended) A process for preparation of parecoxib sodium form IV as defined in claim 7, which comprises the steps of:

a) mixing together i) either 1) parecoxib sodium or 2) parecoxib and ~~an~~ a sodium metal carrier, and

ii) an ether solvent; and

b) isolating parecoxib sodium form IV from the mixture;

wherein the ether solvent is selected from the group consisting of diethyl ether, diisopropyl ether and methyl tert-butyl ether.

21. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process according to claim 20, wherein sodium metal carrier is sodium hydroxide.

22. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process according to claim 20, wherein the ether solvent is methyl tert-butyl ether.

23. (currently amended) A process for preparation of parecoxib sodium form V as defined in claim 9, which comprises the steps of:

a) mixing together i) either 1) parecoxib sodium or 2) parecoxib and ~~an~~ a sodium metal carrier, and

ii) an ester solvent; and

b) isolating parecoxib sodium form V from the mixture;

wherein the ester solvent is selected from the group consisting of ethyl acetate, methyl acetate, isopropyl acetate, tert-butyl acetate, ethyl formate and methyl formate.

24. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process according to claim 23, wherein sodium metal carrier is sodium hydroxide.

25. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process according to claim 23, wherein the ether solvent is ethyl acetate.

26. (currently amended) A process for preparation of parecoxib sodium form VI as defined in claim 11, which comprises the steps of:

a) mixing together i) either 1) parecoxib sodium or 2) parecoxib and ~~an~~ a sodium metal carrier, and

ii) ~~an~~ a ketone solvent; and

b) isolating parecoxib sodium form VI from the mixture;

wherein the ketone solvent is selected from the group consisting of acetone, diethyl ketone, methyl ethyl ketone, methyl isobutyl ketone and methyl propyl ketone.

27. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process according to claim 26, wherein sodium metal carrier is sodium hydroxide.

28. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process according to claim 26, wherein the ketone solvent is acetone.
29. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process according to claim 13, wherein parecoxib sodium is selected from the group consisting of form II of claim 3, form III of claim 5, form IV of claim 7, form V of claim 9 and form VI of claim 11.
30. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process according to claim 16, wherein parecoxib sodium is selected from the group consisting of form I of claim 1, form III of claim 5, form IV of claim 7, form V of claim 9 and form VI of claim 11.
31. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process according to claim 18, wherein parecoxib sodium is selected from the group consisting of form I of claim 1, form II of claim 3, form IV of claim 7, form V of claim 9 and form VI of claim 11.
32. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process according to claim 20, wherein parecoxib sodium is selected from the group consisting of form I of claim 1, form II of claim 3, form III of claim 5, form V of claim 9 and form VI of claim 11.
33. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process according to claim 23, wherein parecoxib sodium is selected from the group consisting of form I of claim 1, form II of claim 3, form III of claim 5, form IV of claim 7 and form VI of claim 11.
34. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process according to claim 26, wherein parecoxib sodium is selected from the group consisting of form I of claim 1, form II of claim 3, form III of claim 5, form IV of claim 7 and form V of claim 9.
35. (original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising parecoxib sodium form I of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.
36. (original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising parecoxib sodium form II of claim 3 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.
37. (original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising parecoxib sodium form III of claim 5 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.
38. (original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising parecoxib sodium form IV of claim 7 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

39. (original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising parecoxib sodium form V of claim 9 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

40. (original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising parecoxib sodium form VI of claim 11 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.